(ख) इस कार्यक्रम के अन्तर्गत लाये जाने वाले ग्रामीण क्षेत्रों का ब्यौरा क्या है; और

(ग) प्राप्त किए गए लक्ष्यों का ब्यौरा क्या है;

मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्रालय में शिक्षा विभाग में राज्य मंत्री (श्री मुही राम सैकिया): (क) और (ख) इस योजना के अन्तर्गत ऐसा कोई लक्ष्य निर्धारित नहीं किया गया है। इस योजना का कार्य क्षेत्र उन गिने-चुने क्षेत्रों तक ही सीमित है जिनमें संपूर्ण साक्षरता आभियानों (टी॰एल॰सी॰) को कार्यान्वित नहीं किया जा सका है। इस प्रकार यह योजना, जिन क्षेत्रों में संपूर्ण साक्षरता अभियान कार्यान्वित नहीं किए जा सके, उन्हें संपूर्ण साक्षरता अभियान से जोड़ती है। विभिन्न राज्यों में संपूर्ण साक्षरता अभियान के कार्यान्वयन की तेज गति को देखते हुए, ग्रामीण कार्यात्मक साक्षरता कार्यक्रम के कार्यान्वयन में स्वत: ही कमी आई, अतएव वर्ष 1995-96 तथा 1996-97 के लिए इस योजना के लिए बजट का टोकन प्रावधान रखा गया है।

(ग) वर्ष 1995-96 के दौरान कोई प्रस्ताव संस्वीकृत नहीं किया गया। वर्ष 1996-97 के दौरान, पूर्वी, पश्चिमी, उत्तरी तथा दक्षिणी जिलों में 5168 निरक्षरों को शामिल करने के लिए सिक्किम राज्य में चार परियोजनाएं संस्वीकृत की गई। इस परियोजना का अभी कार्यान्वयन चल रहा है।

Use of Plastics in Horticulture

2275. PROF. NAUNIHAL SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULUTE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are encouraging the use of plastics in favour of drip irrigation, green houses and plastic mulches to improve production of horticltural crops;

(b) if so, how far these have been popularized among Indian farmers in various States; and

(c) whether Government are providing financial assistance to popularise the use of plastics in horticulture?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The area covered upto March 1996 under drip installation, green house and plastic mulch is 1.4 lakh ha., 300 ha. and 2540 ha. respectively.

(c) Yes, Sir.

Hunger Strike by FCI Emplyees

2276. DR. MOHAN BABU: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Fertilizer Corporation of India (FCI) employees at Ramagundam observed relay hunger strike recently;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the action taken to meet their demands?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SIS RAM OLA): (a) to (c) The employees of Ramagundam unit of Fertilizer Corporation of India Limited (FCI) went on relay hunger strike from 16.10.96 to 20.10.96 in support of their demand for implementation of wage revision under fifth round of wage negotiations in Public Sector Enterprises (PSEs). FCI had been declared as a sick company by the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR). FCI management is unable to implement wage revision of the workers as it did not fulfil the conditions laid down under the extant Government guidelines for the fifth round of wage negotiations in PSEs. Salary revision in respect of other categories of employees can be considered once the BIFR approves revival package for FCI, including its Ramagundam unit.

Action Against Errant Teachers of Government Schools

2277. SHRIMATI MALTI SHARMA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to refer to answer to answer to Unstarred Question 2616, given in the Rajya Sabha on the 30th August, 1996 and state:

(a) whether the percentage of the first generation learners, as reported by the Government of NCT of Delhi, is based on authentic survey;

(b) whether it is a fact that most of the teachers of Government Schools have engaged themselves in private tuitions which indirectly contribute to their negligent attitude in the classes;

(c) if so, whether Government propose to take any strict measures to prevent such teachers from taking private tuitions; and

(d) if not the reasons therefor?

THE MINSITER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA): (a) According to the information furnished by the Government of NCT of Delhi, the percentage of first generation learners as reported by them was based on estimation as experienced at the school level and was not based on authentic survey.

(b) There is no authentic data-base to substantiate this statement.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

NHRC Suggestion on Trafficking in Children

2278. MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be plesased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that recently National Human Rights Commission in a workshop on Child Prostitution had suggested for stringent punishment, particularly for pimps, brothel keepers and mafia dons, and making the offence of trafficking in Children a cognizable and non-bailable offence; and

(b) if so, the action Government propose to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI S.R. BOMMAI: (a) and (b) Meetings held on 1.5.96 and 25.7.96 of the National Human Rights Commission, the Department of Women and Child Development, the National Commssion for Women and representatives of UNICEF and certain NGO's had inter alia stressed upon strict enforcement of existing laws in orders to abolish Child Prostitution.

New farming policy to accelerate Agricultural growth

2279. SHRI SATISH PRADHAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have critically reviewed the status of development activities in rural areas to work out appropriate strategies for acceleration of growth in agriculture and related non-crop sector through a comprehensive policy measure/ package;

(b) if so, the details of the trends revealed, indicating areas of sluggish growth, tardy implementation of irrigation, weak agro-institutions and absence of sceintific agriculture and improved farming etc.; and

(c) the details of New Agricultural Policy with new policy initiatives/thrust areas, particularly for non-green/dry land farming?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA): (a) to (c) The major challenges faced by Indian Agriculture include: need to increase production and productivity of crops: imbalance in growth in eastern, hilly, rainfed and drought prone region; problem of underemployment and unemployment in rural areas; development of agro-processing industries; need for revitalization of cooperatives; focus in agricultural research system for rainfed and drought-prone areas; increasing utilization of irrigation potential and promotion of efficient water management and conservation systems and correcting the terms of trade to make them favourable to agriculture.

The draft Agriculture Policy which was discussed in the Parliament in August 1995, aims at accelerating alround development and economic viability of agriculture with a view to increasing agricultural production by favourable economic environment for farmers through a favourable investment, price and trade regime. Promotion of agro-processing industry, strengthening of agricultural research, development of rural infrastrcture, provision of inputs and creation of employment opportunities in rural areas are thrust areas of the policy.

In order to develop the rainfed areas of the country, conservation of rain water will be promoted by vegetative conservation measures through watershed management to bring about integrated development with the help of self regulating beneficiaries groups.